

[MUSIC PLAYING]

HOST 1: Hello, Houston. This is Jimmy with a QMZ, the Queer Music Zone, heard every week on *After Hours*, a continuing tradition on KPFT Houston. The QMZ music by openly gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender artists. And tonight, we're going to do mostly request music. We've been taking your requests since the show opened. And boy, we almost have a whole QMZ worth of music.

And if you want to make your request for queer music to be played on QMZ, give us a call at 526-5738. First up, an oldie and a goodie by Margie Adam. And this is the song that put her on the map. And many other people recorded it, too. It's called "The Unicorn Song" by request.

Mm-hmm. Margie Adam with "The Unicorn Song" by request. And also by request coming up is the "Queen's English" by Jose and Luis, something from Queen and something from Pansy Division. But let's do that one from Queen right now.

Pansy Division by request. That's off of their brand new album *Deflowered*, and it's called "Kissed." Before that by request,

CREW: The "Queen's English."

HOST 1: --the "Queen's English" by--

CREW: Jose and Luis.

HOST 1: --Jose, Jose and Luis, yes, who were two dancers on Madonna's tour, right?

CREW: Blond Ambition.

HOST 1: Blonde Ambition Tour. Yeah. And she's the female that you hear in the background on that.

HOST 2: Right. And her new album is coming out in October.

HOST 1: All right. It's about time. Cool. Coming up, by request by me because-- well, you know we just don't have enough transgenerals played on the air. And so I came up with this little number here by Wendy Carlos. Well, it's Wendy Carlos now. It was Walter Carlos when it was recorded. It's called *Switched-on Bach*. And you'll kind of know this tune. You just won't have heard it this way.

Mm-hmm. Yes. That was Wendy Carlos now, but Walter Carlos when it was recorded as *Switched-on Bach* on the Moog synthesizer. That was "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring." Yes. And you have been listening to the QMZ, the Queer Music Zone, heard every week on *After Hours*, a continuing tradition on KPFT Houston.

After Hours, the most popular gay and lesbian radio show that no one knows about. And to kind of close out the QMZ, I've got a special song. It was done by Charles Ludlam of the Ridiculous Theater Company. And a couple of years ago. Dolly Parton kind of paraphrased the title of this song on that short-lived TV show that she had, when she said, "Thank God He made me a woman. Or else, I would have been a drag queen."

This is Charles Ludlum's "Thank God He Made Me a Drag Queen." Yes. And that'll just about do it for the QMZ for this week. We've had a couple of more requests that we're going to try to get in before the end of the show. If you have requests for queer music, it's 526-5738. So until next week.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

HOST 3: Hey! How are y'all doing out there? Well, we have been having just conversation after conversation out here in the lobby. And I thought it best to bring this conversation in here to your bedrooms, cars, and assorted places where you have radios and stereos. OK. The minute we get in here, everybody's very quiet, I notice. But we've got three lovely ladies here in the house with me. Names, anybody?

EVELYN: Hi, I'm Evelyn.

CYNTHIA: Cynthia.

BUBBA: Bubba.

[LAUGHTER]

HOST 3: And Bubba in the corner. We were in the antechamber, speaking about lesbian sexuality. And two of our lovely guests have just--

CREW: And I'm the Auntie.

[LAUGHTER]

HOST 3: Auntie, Auntie. And you've just returned from the ranch. And you're all ranchified, and see a lot of women out tonight?

EVELYN: Oh, yeah. We saw a lot of women out tonight. I don't know if you call us ranchified.

HOST 3: No, I was going to say, tell us about your theme for the evening.

EVELYN: Our theme for the evening is leather.

HOST 3: So you're dressed for the occasion?

EVELYN: Actually, we were dressed for a tour of other facilities in the neighborhood, of course, and we decided to do the ranch and were--

HOST 3: To go see some girls?

EVELYN: Yeah. We really wanted to see some girls. We saw enough guys to last us a lifetime this evening.

HOST 3: So were you doing your basic sleazy bar tour? Or where did you go out?

EVELYN: We were doing our basic *Switchboard* bar tour.

HOST 3: Ah, *Switchboard* bar tour.

CYNTHIA: As discussed earlier.

EVELYN: As discussed earlier.

HOST 3: So I didn't realize that you were a part of that said Switchboard bar tour.

EVELYN: Oh, yes,

CYNTHIA: Oh, yes, indeed. Yes, indeed.

HOST 3: And in the attire that you have on, which is care to share with anyone? Bubba?

EVELYN: Well, Bubba, describe to us what you're wearing. I command thee.

BUBBA: A dog collar. [LAUGHTER]

CYNTHIA: And a leather vest.

BUBBA: A leather vest.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

EVELYN: And a cock ring holding her hair in a ponytail.

HOST 3: And a penis ring. I'm sorry. [INAUDIBLE].

[LAUGHTER]

The producer's finger is waving.

EVELYN: A napkin holder. Handcuffs.

CYNTHIA: A Lobo napkin holder.

EVELYN: And handcuffs.

HOST 3: A skirt, a skirt.

BUBBA: I have a skirt.

HOST 3: Got the skirt thing happening, a temporary tattoo. Was this theme for any particular reason? Did you--

EVELYN: We knew we were doing a couple of leather clubs, thought we'd have fun with it.

HOST 3: OK, were you received well?

EVELYN: We were received very well in the men's clubs, with the exception of one club who has a posted sign that says that we cannot come in without male escort. Fortunately, there's lots of males volunteering with the Switchboard, and we were able to go inside.

HOST 3: And anything else about that bar tour? You said you went from kind of the boys' bars. You happened by the ranch. That was your last stop?

EVELYN: Our last stop was private. We decided to leave a few minutes early and go off on our own and go to the ranch. And of course, most women at the ranch shared the cowboy theme. And we were--

HOST 3: Were you received well or mediocre or what?

EVELYN: I think many women are surprised to see other than mainstream attire at the ranch.

HOST 3: So this costume-- this is the costume for the evening, or something that you're a little more serious about, or a little bit of both, or what?

EVELYN: I would like to be more serious about it, but it's costume for the evening.

HOST 3: Yeah. So where'd you get your costume for the evening? Is it yours, or is it borrowed?

EVELYN: Oh, it's ours. Come on, Bubba, talk to me.

HOST 3: Bubba is very quiet now. You said-- you said something earlier about feeling like you were two dykes walking through Utah or something.

[LAUGHTER]

BUBBA: I got two marriage proposals and a couple of laughs. A lot of stares. I think there's a lot of women that were intrigued and would like to try it, but-- there were a few scared. They get out of my way when they see me with a dog collar.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

EVELYN: Now that's my way that they get out of.

BUBBA: I think it's fun. I think we should get into other things, other than the butch and femme thing. And it's fun dressing up and and doing different fantasies and letting all sides come out. We're going to be cowboys next week.

HOST 3: So you're going to stick with the theme idea. Next theme is going to be the Western wear, a tie thing happening.

BUBBA: Yeah.

HOST 3: --happening. OK.

EVELYN: I can't wait to see her in drags.

HOST 3: Did you get it? Bubba's going to do drag. She's now--

[LAUGHTER]

She's now left the room.

CYNTHIA: The video is 1995.

HOST 3: Film at 11:00. We talked a little bit too about being a part of those gay boy bars, kind of the leather bars and stuff that you went to. We talked about, from the radio conversation I had earlier, about bathhouses, and lesbian sexuality, and things like that. You and I, Cynthia, were talking about the cyclical nature about the little incestuous nature. Tell us about what we were talking about, how everybody seems to know everybody, and that whole--

CYNTHIA: Oh, I was saying that if we did have a lesbian bathhouse, especially in Houston, as large as our community actually is, is that I'm afraid there would be no secrets because everyone knows everyone else. Or they know someone who knows someone. So it's sort of--

HOST 3: Everybody's done somebody ex.

[LAUGHTER]

CYNTHIA: It's like that already. Could you imagine if we had a bathhouse and added that to the mix? It would be--

HOST 3: Don't you think you'd be sitting around going, girl, did you see so-and-so at the bathhouse last night?

BUBBA: Oh, honey, you haven't done the postmortem on the ranch, have you? It's like, did you see who was with who? Oh, no.

CYNTHIA: All you have to do is wait for thanksgiving when everybody shows up, this ex and that ex. One big happy family.

HOST 3: All the relatives come in from out of town. All the exes and the in-laws. All my exes live in Texas, thank God. I don't have much traveling to see the in-laws.

EVELYN: Thank God mine keep moving.

BUBBA: Wow.

HOST 3: So do you think you'd go if there was a bathhouse?

EVELYN: I have to admit I'm really intrigued by the idea. But that's not necessarily a scene that I consider myself into. And somehow it doesn't seem overly polite to go and not participate.

HOST 3: "Overly polite," I'm so glad you used that word. I'm so glad you used that word. That just hits everything home for me because I think that especially southern people, and I'll say women as well as men, were ingrained with this idea of what's proper etiquette, what is proper in any given situation? Who gets on their knees first? Who opens up the condom? Who tears a--

CYNTHIA: Protocol.

HOST 3: Protocol. That's exactly, a protocol. And I don't know that women yet know about safe sex bathhouse protocol. And I don't know how we educate ourselves about that.

CYNTHIA: Yeah, but do you think that there actually is. I mean, outside of San Francisco, I don't know of any lesbian bathhouses. There probably is one in New York. I don't doubt for a moment.

HOST 3: But for the most part, they're sort of traveling clubs. They're sort of like the traveling dungeons, that S&M clubs and groups have. I mean, there's traveling places because you don't want to get raided or busted. For the most part, I don't know if it's necessarily-- well, I'll say it. For the most part, it's illegal activities.

BUBBA: And I'll have to stand up for the other bubbas out there, us redneck women. I mean, to me, it would be kind of nice-- I mean, I have thought in the past that-- not to have to buy dinner, make a commitment. You know? I mean, geez, it would be nice.

HOST 3: Are you doing this whole thing because you're cheap or because you don't want to make a commitment? There's two separate things.

BUBBA: Oh, no. I have a running account at Gordon's Jewelers. Every time I break up, I got another ring or another pendant.

HOST 3: So you know about that lesbian U-Haul joke thing? You're really aware of that, you meet somebody and you marry in the next day? Is that part of your past history?

BUBBA: Oh, I'll marry all of them. Sure.

CYNTHIA: Yeah, right.

EVELYN: OK. I didn't know a thing about that.

CYNTHIA: You know she lies. She lies.

HOST 3: Yeah.

BUBBA: But I do it well.

HOST 3: Mm-hmm. But they still like you, don't they?

BUBBA: That's the problem.

CYNTHIA: I'll say I'm naturally blonde.

EVELYN: I recently met someone who received a ring from this woman in parting. She still likes her.

[LAUGHTER]

And to think it was such a long time ago.

HOST 3: This is all over my head, folks. So I want to know, would you or would you not enter, if we knew that right now--

BUBBA: I would get a charter membership.

HOST 3: And?

BUBBA: And go frequently.

HOST 3: OK. So if studs-- if there was like a Studettes or a Heather's Place or something that opens up right over in Richmond. It's a Big Tin Barn. You go. And there's a big front door right on Richmond next to the parking lot.

BUBBA: Honey, the name of it--

HOST 3: Would you drive out? Would you go?

BUBBA: --is Bubba's.

HOST 3: Bubba's place. OK. So you go. You park your car. You get to the front door. What happens next?

CYNTHIA: First, I call my mom and tell her I was going in case I was-- and tell her to get a bunch of cash out for the bank. loan just in case.

EVELYN: For bail?

EVELYN: Garter belts and dental dams are handed out at the door.

HOST 3: Garter belts.

CYNTHIA: Garter belts and dental dams.

EVELYN: Garter belts--

CYNTHIA: For invitations?

HOST 3:--[INAUDIBLE] idea.

EVELYN: Garter belts are to hold the dental dams.

HOST 3: OK. It works for me. Anything else?

EVELYN: It can't possibly be like a male bathhouse. I mean, it seems to me it would be incredibly different.

HOST 3: So you think it would be like an aerobics center that they [INAUDIBLE] to.

EVELYN: I think it would be a bit more plush.

CYNTHIA: It would be-- I'm sure the sauna room would be interesting.

HOST 3: Jacuzzi.

EVELYN: They'd have to have a weightlifting room.

HOST 3: Oh, yeah. Oh, yeah.

CYNTHIA: Honey, if you're listening, weightlifting room. I like that.

BUBBA: There just seems to be this natural connection between lesbians and anything wet.

HOST 3: Oh, OK. Let's go to a song. You mean, like the steam room, and the sauna, and the whirlpool and the water sports?

CYNTHIA: A sauna would be very popular. A swimming pool would be very popular.

HOST 3: Water aerobics.

BUBBA: Yeah. That sort of thing.

HOST 3: Well, I wouldn't join a health club unless they had a pool there. That's part of the deal.

EVELYN: Of course. Of course, we're not talking about health club.

HOST 3: Well, in a way I think we are. Yeah. I mean, don't you think?

EVELYN: Yes. I guess we are.

CYNTHIA: Well, it depends on if you're talking about your sexual health or not.

HOST 3: Oh. She's showing me a lovely watch now. Isn't that great?

Thank you. So we've decided that about half and half would and wouldn't frequent this in this room, this room alone. What do you think about the lesbian community in general? Do you think that-- because of the incestuous cyclical nature of lesbians that people wouldn't go? Or do you think they would?

EVELYN: I believe that if there were maybe a greater awareness in our community that anonymity was important that more and more people would join. But if we couldn't trust ourselves to not spread the the talk-- women are just too sensitive to talk.

BUBBA: So which really brings up the issue of whether or not women would really be interested in anonymous sex, which essentially is what a bathhouse provides.

EVELYN: Mm-hmm.

BUBBA: And--

CYNTHIA: I would go

BUBBA: --that's the real--

CYNTHIA: I wouldn't really care.

BUBBA: That's the real question. I mean, that is actually ultimately the real question, when you have so many people in our community that are actually coupled. And the ones that are coupled tend to be coupled either for a long time. And when they break up, they sort of dive right into another relationship. You have to wonder if there's enough of a community out there to support a business like this.

HOST 3: So do you think that it would desensitize us to sex if we were able to have as much free sex as we wanted to via anonymous bathhouse sex?